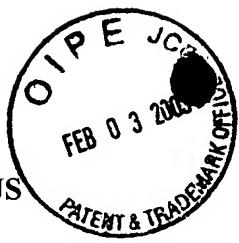


KIX0169-US



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

TORAYUKI TSUKADA

Serial No.: 10/092,257

Filed: March 7, 2002

For: CHIP RESISTOR WITH UPPER
ELECTRODE HAVING
NONUNIFORM THICKNESS AND
METHOD OF MAKING THE
RESISTOR

Art Unit: 2832

Examiner: EASTHOM, KARL D.

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on January 23, 2003, Applicants hereby provisionally elect, with traverse, to prosecute the claims of Group II (claims 8-10) in the present application.

However, applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement since the subject matter of all of claims 1-10, is sufficiently related that a thorough and complete search for the subject matter of the elected claims would necessarily encompass a thorough and complete search for the subject matter of the non-elected claims. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested

Serial No.: 10/092,257
Art Unit: 2832

Attorney's Docket No.: KIX0169-US
Page 2

that the restriction requirement be withdrawn and that the present application be examined according to MPEP § 803 so as to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to the Applicants and improper duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

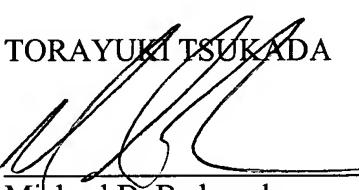
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1650 Tysons Boulevard
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Date: February 3, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

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